

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously presented) A system for actively managing configurable components, comprising:

a plurality of components, each component storing a configuration comprising a set of configuration parameters;

a repository that stores information about a configuration policy;

a server configured to (a) register each of the plurality of components, (b) perform dynamic probing operations on each of the plurality of components to identify configuration changes made to the configuration of each of the plurality of components, and (c) validate identified configuration changes against the configuration policy to determine whether the configuration changes conform to the configuration policy;

wherein the configuration policy defines, for each configuration parameter of the configuration of each of the plurality of components, a value range for which the configuration parameter will be successfully validated by the server;

wherein, to validate a particular identified configuration change of the identified configuration changes against the configuration policy, the server determines whether results of the particular identified configuration change occurs within the value range.
2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the server comprises a set of core services for responding to an identified configuration change, wherein the set of core services comprises at least one of:
 - a first service for changing a value of at least one configuration parameter to a default or previously validated value;
 - a second service for auditing the configuration parameters of the configuration of at least one of the plurality of components;
 - a third service for generating an alert regarding the configuration parameters of the configuration of at least one of the plurality of components; and
 - a fourth service for acquiescing to the identified configuration change.
4. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising:
 - a log storing data that identifies an identified configuration change made to the configuration of a particular component.
5. (Previously presented) A system according to Claim 1, further comprising:
 - a configuration and validation module for performing impact analysis on the identified configuration changes against the plurality of components.
6. (Canceled)
7. (Previously presented) A method for actively managing configurable components, comprising:
 - maintaining a repository, accessible to a server, that stores information about a configuration policy;

registering, with the server, each of a plurality of components;
performing dynamic probing operations on each of the plurality of components to identify configuration changes made to a configuration of each of the plurality of components; and
validating, at the server, identified configuration changes against the configuration policy to determine whether the identified configuration changes conform to the configuration policy;
wherein the configuration policy defines, for each configuration parameter of the configuration of each of the plurality of components, a value range for which the configuration parameter will be successfully validated by the server;
wherein validating a particular identified configuration change of the identified configuration changes against the configuration policy comprises determining whether results of the particular identified configuration change occur within the value range.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 7, further comprising:

responding to an identified configuration change by performing at least one of:

changing a value of at least one configuration parameter to a default or previously validated value;

auditing configuration parameters of the configuration of at least one of the plurality of components;

generating an alert regarding the configuration parameters of the configuration of
at least one of the plurality of components; and
acquiescing to the identified configuration change.

10. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 7, further comprising:
logging data that identifies an identified configuration change made to the configuration
of a particular component to a log file.
11. (Previously presented) A method according to Claim 7, further comprising:
performing impact analysis on the identified configuration changes against the plurality of
components.
- 12-49. (Canceled)
50. (Previously presented) The system of Claim 1, wherein each of the plurality of
components is separate from the server.
51. (New) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the information indicates a relationship
dependency between a first configuration parameter in the configuration of a first
component and a second configuration parameter in the configuration of a different
component.
52. (New) A system according to Claim 51, wherein the server validates the configuration,
for the first component, based upon the relationship dependency between the first
configuration parameter and the second configuration parameter.

53. (New) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the information includes at least one document type definition defining a mapping between the configuration of at least two of the plurality of individual components.
54. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the information indicates a relationship dependency between a first configuration parameter in the configuration of a first component and a second configuration parameter in the configuration of a different component.
55. (New) A method according to Claim 54, wherein the server validates the configuration, for the first component, based upon the relationship dependency between the first configuration parameter and the second configuration parameter.
56. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the information includes at least one document type definition defining a mapping between the configuration of at least two of the plurality of individual components.
57. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein a particular configuration change comprises a change to a configuration parameter or type definition associated with a particular component.
58. (New) A method according to Claim 7, wherein the configuration policy, stored in the repository, includes a master set of configuration parameters and type definitions for each of the plurality of components.

59. (New) A system according to Claim 51, wherein the relationship dependency comprises one of one-way, two-way, cyclic, one-to-many, many-to-one, and many-to-many.
60. (New) A method according to Claim 54, wherein the relationship comprises one of one-way, two-way, cyclic, one-to-many, many-to-one, and many-to-many.
61. (New) A computer-readable storage medium holding code which, when executed, performs the method according to any one of Claims 7, 9, 10, 11, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, and 60.